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the in Field

THE FIELD MUSEUM MEMBER MAGAZINE



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The **Field**
Museum

1400 South Lake Shore Drive

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farewell letter

AS I PREPARE TO LEAVE, I'M REMEMBERING the excitement of our times together—Members' Nights, exploring the collections, exhibition openings, chance encounters, stopping for conversations—wonderful memories.

So much has happened over these 16 years: thousands of scientific publications, thousands of new species identified, millions of visitors, hundreds of exhibitions and educational programs, hundreds of millions of philanthropic dollars raised, thousands of square feet of facility expansion and thousands of square miles of rainforest protected.

Behind these statistics are nine fundamental core themes:

One, strengthening our role in the grand tradition of natural history and science stretching back to Aristotle, Pliny, Buffon, Linnaeus, Darwin, and Mendel.

Two, ensuring The Field's ability to extend this tradition into new worlds, deepening our understanding of evolution, sustaining the environment, investigating the new science of molecular biology, and using digital capabilities to extend our reach and impact.

Three, protecting the collection through new accessible, climate controlled, compactorized storage; digitizing these collections for sharing online across the world.

Four, securing the opportunity to invest in new scientific technologies and facilities to advance learning.

Five, building new exhibitions and educational programs to bring the world to Chicago while introducing young people to the wonders of science.

Six, representing The Field in the Chicago community to enhance the Museum's public profile.

Seven, understanding the world economic context and protecting the Museum from financial and political volatility and enabling it to thrive and grow.

Eight, extending our mission to the protection of the environment in Andes-Amazon, Africa, the oceans, and the natural areas of Chicago.

Nine, building the Museum family by enlarging opportunities, bringing in new talent, watching personal growth, sending people on to outside opportunities,

and enhancing the Museum as an organic structure of talented individuals.

Thank you for your enthusiasm, involvement, and support of this wonderful place. It has been a privilege to lead this great Museum.

JOHN MCCARTER

President and CEO



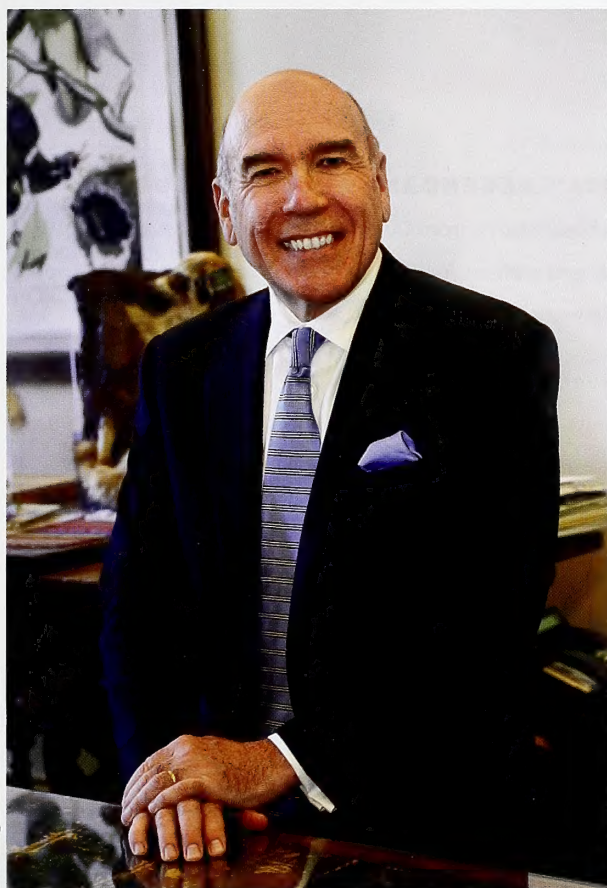
GN91345_028D / KAREN BEAN

Museum Names New President

By Shawn VanDerziel, Vice President Human Resources and Administration

EARLIER THIS SPRING, THE FIELD MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD W. LARIVIERE AS PRESIDENT AND CEO of the Museum.

Lariviere (pronounced *lah-riv-yair*) brings with him an outstanding record of scholarship, fundraising, and institutional leadership. Most recently a professor of Sanskrit and Indian Studies at the University of Oregon, Lariviere also served as President of the university from 2009–2011.



John Rowe, the Museum's Board Chairman says "Richard Lariviere has demonstrated profound respect for institutional integrity and a fiery passion for the people and communities he serves. These are characteristics we highly value at The Field, and they are exactly what is needed to build upon the superb legacy of John McCarter and take the Museum into the future."

Prior to his role as President at the University of Oregon, Lariviere served as Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost at the University of Kansas, as well as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas. In addition to his academic achievements, which include a PhD in Asian Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and a BA in the History of Religion from the University of Iowa, Lariviere is a prize-winning author.

"The Field is an iconic museum and renowned throughout the world. It is an honor to be selected to serve as its president," Lariviere says. "John McCarter is a tough act to follow, but I look forward to working with The Field's incredibly talented team and partnering with the wonderfully supportive business and philanthropic communities here."

As Museum Members, we hope you share in our excitement as we welcome Dr. Lariviere to the Museum! **ITF**

"The Field is an iconic museum and renowned throughout the world. It is an honor to be selected to serve as its president."

Discover **Maharaja:** The Splendor of India's Royal Courts

**Stunning Exhibition
Opens October 17**

By Emily Waldren, Editor

**DISCOVER THE DAZZLING WORLD OF INDIA'S LEGENDARY RULERS IN OUR
LATEST EXHIBITION,** *Maharaja: The Splendor of India's Royal Courts*, from October 17 through February 3, 2013.

The exhibition presents over 200 rare artifacts including elaborate jewelry, ornate weaponry, royal costumes, and gorgeous artworks.

From the pomp and circumstance of a royal procession to the inner sanctum of a courtly palace, *Maharaja* explores the world of India's rulers from the 1700s to the 1940s taking visitors through an era of great political change.

Key artworks in *Maharaja* include exquisitely-detailed paintings of royal processions, regalia worn by kings and queens, ceremonial daggers, swords and matchlock guns, hand-crafted instruments and board games, and prized photographs by Man Ray and Cecil Beaton. A highlight of the exhibition is the Patiala necklace by Cartier which originally contained 2,930 diamonds (including the yellow 234.69-carat DeBeers diamond).

The word *maharaja*, or "great king," recalls a turbaned and bejeweled ruler with absolute authority and immense wealth. But this image fails to do justice to the maharaja's complex role in the cultural and political history of India. The exhibition re-examines the world of the maharajas and their extraordinarily rich culture and will introduce visitors to the concept of royal duty in India. From military strength to administrative and diplomatic skills, maharajas were expected to adhere to a strict code of behaviors. Besides being wise and benevolent, the king was expected to be an excellent warrior and accomplished hunter. Visitors will discover swords and rifles encrusted with gemstones, as well as heavily decorated armor.



Visitors to *Maharaja* will discover paintings depicting royal life, as well as clothing and jewels from India's elite.



IMAGES TOP TO BOTTOM, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT © VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, LONDON: PROCESSION OF AMAR SINGH AND SERFOJI II OF TANJORE, C. 1797; WINE FLASK, MUGHAL COURT, 1600–1625, MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ART, DOHA; SARI, 1850.

Through their participation in elaborate public spectacles, maharajas signified their public authority and roles. Throughout the exhibition visitors will encounter dazzling ceremonial regalia—for example, a silver *howdah*, which the maharaja used atop a giant elephant during grand processions. Also included in this display is film footage of “dressing” the royal elephant, and an *ankus*—(an instrument to control the elephant) made of gold and bejeweled with colorless sapphires.

Rare paintings in watercolors and gold chronicle royal rule and daily life: from the nearly 24-foot-long scroll depicting a procession of the ruler of Mysore to an intimate scene of a concert in a palace courtyard.

Stunning clothing and jewelry illustrate how maharajas used opulence as a symbol of authority. One turban ornament from the mid-18th century, is made up of gold, rubies, emeralds, diamonds, a pearl, and an enormous sapphire. Such ornaments were originally worn only by the ruler, but by the 1700s, they were given as symbols of royal favor to select noblemen.



NICK WELSH
CARTIER COLLECTION
© CARTIER

Visitors will explore palace life, including entertainment and leisure. A beautiful peacock-shaped stringed instrument uses real peacock feathers to complete the design and a games box made from rosewood, ivory, and brass helped pass the time.

The exhibition traces the decline of the Mughal Empire in the early 18th century, to the rise of smaller kingdoms, through the expansion of the English East India Company and British colonization in 1858. Ending with India's independence movement and the collapse of British rule in 1947, *Maharaja* provides a better and nuanced understanding of the rich cultural traditions and complex political dimensions underlying India today. **ITF**

Lead sponsors: BMO Harris Bank, Exelon

Exhibition organized by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London



SUIT OF ARMOR, 1700-1800
© VICTORIA AND ALBERT
MUSEUM, LONDON

Just for Members

As a valued member, you are cordially invited to an exclusive event on Sunday, October 14 from 8:30am to noon.

Join us for a light, continental breakfast followed by a talk in James Simpson Theater with Anna Jackson from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London at 9:30am. Then get a Members-only look at The Field's newest exhibition.

Reservations to this special event are required and can be made by contacting 312.665.7705, Monday through Friday, from 8:30am to 4:30pm, or by emailing membership@fieldmuseum.org.



A "Royal" Celebration

FIELD MUSEUM'S 3RD ANNUAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Celebrate 50 years of marriage at The Field Museum on Saturday, December 1. Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2012* will receive FREE Basic admission with the purchase of a *Maharaja: The Splendor of India's Royal Courts* ticket. (Exhibition tickets are free for Members.) Inside the exhibition, couples will discover the grandeur of the maharaja's wedding, and be able to view a beautiful bridal gown from early 20th century India. At 1pm, couples can renew their wedding vows and partake in a special toast. Reservations are recommended by calling 312.665.7100.

*Couples must provide proof of a 1962 wedding (marriage certificate, wedding invitation, or dated newspaper clipping).

SWORD, C. 1800 © VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, LONDON

Best Kept Secret Revealed

By Jessica Hankey, School Partnerships and Programs Manager and Lindsey Snyder, Public Programs Coordinator

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN TAKE A PIECE OF THE MUSEUM HOME WITH YOU?

From a skunk specimen to a cast of SUE's tooth to a ceremonial mask from Cameroon, the *N.W. Harris Learning Collection* at *The Field Museum* allows educators and parents to borrow Museum treasures for their students and children.

Previously named the Harris Educational Loan Center, the collection is the oldest education program in existence at the Museum. Endowed by Norman Wait Harris in 1911,

the 100-year-old *Learning Collection* is like a lending library of specimens and artifacts. With over 400 unique Exhibit Cases (mini-dioramas) and 100 Experience Boxes (hands-on kits) your options are endless! Borrow an Angolan fruit bat hanging from a branch, a barn owl ready to swoop down on its prey, or many other animal, plant, and geology-



Students at Jane A. Neil School explore shoes from our Living Together: Shoes Experience Box.

themed cases. You can also unpack an Experience Box on the ancient Egyptians including a model of the Museum's mastaba tomb. Or borrow our "Wild in Chicago" box to explore skulls, pelts, and specimens of Chicago-area wildlife. (Including rats and cockroaches!)



Over the past year the collection has undergone renovation, and our re-imagined *N.W. Harris Learning Collection* will re-open soon with notable enhancements. Exhibit Cases now feature new and improved information labels designed to spark questions and observations; Experience Boxes are stocked with more hands-on objects and revised activity guides to facilitate object-based learning.

Since its inception, the *N.W. Harris Learning Collection* has used these materials (rats and all!) to engage students in scientific practices and critical thinking skills, and to pique their curiosity about Earth's natural and cultural diversity. We are excited to usher in another century of educational innovation with our grand re-opening on September 15. **ITF**

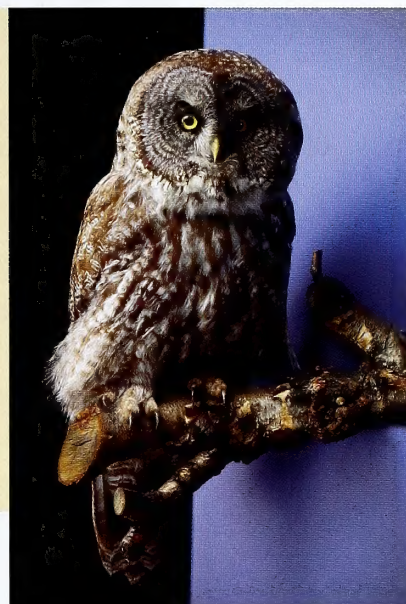


The Asian Long Horn Beetle Exhibit Case.

IMAGES: ERNEST J. RAMON / THE FIELD MUSEUM 2012

Interested in bringing The Field Museum to your school or home?

Visit fieldmuseum.org/schools/harris to become a registered borrower starting September 15. Teachers may attend the Educator Open House on October 16 and check out the *Learning Collection* firsthand. More information is available at fieldmuseum.org/schools.



For the Birds: Renowned Bird Hall Gets Makeover

By Tom Skwerski, Exhibitions Project Manager and John Bates, PhD, Associate Curator, Division of Birds

PERHAPS NO OTHER ANIMALS INSPIRE AS MUCH PASSION FOR STUDY AS BIRDS. BIRDS ARE PART OF OUR DAILY LIVES—THROUGH SIGHT AND SOUND, THEY ARE A FREQUENT REMINDER OF THE NATURAL WORLD AROUND US.

The Bird Hall at The Field Museum has long been one of the most outstanding displays of birds in the world. Last renovated in the early 1990s, the hall received extensive upgrades this past summer. The classic dioramas and displays were not changed, but thanks to generous contributions from Ronald and Christina Gidwitz and the Grainger Digital Initiative, and extensive input

from the Division of Birds curators and staff, the exhibition's content has been updated. The galleries also received a new HVAC and fire suppression systems, as well as a fresh coat of paint.

All of the exhibition reading rails received a new graphic design look, and new information about the relationships between bird species (based on the work of Associate Curator Shannon Hackett, PhD, and her colleagues) is incorporated throughout.

A number of display cases also received interactive kiosks with digital labels. Using iPad technology, visitors can now learn more about bird species through expanded videos, photographs, and interactive activities like matching games, color and shape activities geared for younger kids, quizzes, and maps.

An "Artists' Corner" was added, highlighting artists who express themselves through the subject of birds. Additionally, The Field Museum Exhibition Media Department created an engaging atmospheric projection of sounds and images of flocking birds. With over 1,000 different specimens on display from Chicago, North America, and around the world, visitors can experience and explore their passion for these beautiful and amazing animals in new ways in the Ronald and Christina Gidwitz Hall of Birds. The renovated hall opens to the public on September 25. **ITF**

Above, left: Hoatzin
(*Opisthocomus hoazin*)

Above, right: Great Gray
Owl (*Strix nebulosa*)



"The Museum's Bird Hall continues to be one of most comprehensive displays of birds in the world—bringing it up to date highlights how much we are still learning."

Dr. John Bates, Associate Curator, Division of Birds

DNA Residency Program

By Franck Mercurio, Associate Editor, In The Field

THIS PAST SUMMER, FOUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TWO SCIENCE TEACHERS completed the DNA Residency program at The Field Museum's Pritzker Laboratory for Molecular Systemics and Evolution. The residency program provided the students and teachers with paid internships to actively participate in Museum-sponsored DNA research projects.



GN91688_007D / JOHN WEINSTEIN



GN91688_035D / JOHN WEINSTEIN

Students and teachers sequencing DNA in the DNA Discovery Center.

The students—Jesse Kusimba, Luke O'Connor, Audrey Putman, Catherine Zhou—were chosen from a competitive candidate pool of over 50 applicants. Together with teachers, Tom Champion and Anna Simpson, they worked on real research projects for six weeks. The participants were subdivided into two teams (two students paired with one teacher). One team was led by Associate Curator of Birds Shannon Hackett, PhD, and the other by Lab Manager Kevin Feldheim, PhD. Hackett's group worked on mammal genetic differentiation as part of the Emerging Pathogens Project, while Feldheim's group worked on the population genetics of Sawfish.

The Residency participants studied embryology and learned about the chemistry of DNA. They also spent time in the Museum's fossil collections and the labs of the University of Chicago. During weekdays, they talked with Museum visitors during "talk to the scientist hour" in the *DNA Discovery Center*. The students and teachers also participated in weekly discussions of *Your Inner Fish* (a great introductory book to evolutionary biology) with Museum scientists.

When not conducting research in the Lab, each student worked on their own digital projects connected to their own interests in DNA.

Past student interns of the DNA Residency program have gone on to pursue higher education in the sciences at leading universities throughout the United States including University of Illinois, Tufts University, and University of Pennsylvania. To learn more about the digital projects created by the Residency participants and the application process for Summer 2013, please visit the Pritzker Lab's website: fieldmuseum.org/explore/departments/pritzkerlab.1TF

This exhibition is generously supported by the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation.



GN91688_089D / JOHN WEINSTEIN

Catch up with the latest news about the Museum's DNA research projects by visiting the *DNA Discovery Center* and Pritzker Lab on Facebook!

THE ANNUAL FUND

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for your
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*A gift to The Annual Fund helps sustain our research, exhibits, and education.
Thank you for your partnership and support.*

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Cinematic Scientific Slips

Compiled by Mark Alvey, Operations Administrator, Botany Department
and Franck Mercurio, Associate Editor, In The Field

IN THE RECENT RE-RELEASE OF TITANIC, DIRECTOR JAMES CAMERON MADE ONLY ONE SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO HIS EPIC MOVIE: he modified the nighttime sky to accurately reflect its appearance in April 1912—reportedly at the urging of “one very annoying astrophysicist.” *In The Field* polled our own museum curators about their favorite (or most irksome) scientific inaccuracies in the movies. Here are a few of their responses:



CORRIE MOREAU

Assistant Curator, Division of Insects

Them! (1954)

Them! is a great 1950s sci-fi movie—and not as bad as some. They actually call the ant scientist a myrmecologist (which is the correct term!). In the movie, exposure to atomic radiation causes ants to grow to supersize. In real life, giant ants could never survive. First, insects breathe passively through small openings on the sides of their bodies, called trachea, and this system is only effective for small animals. Second, the body mass of a giant insect would exceed the strength of its exoskeleton resulting in the collapse of the insect under its own weight and its inability to move. So fear not giant ants! In fact, ants and other insects are vital to a healthy planet.

BRUCE PATTERSON

MacArthur Curator of Mammals

The Ghost and the Darkness (1996)

Zoological inconsistencies permeate Hollywood. Just think of Johnny Weismuller as Tarzan with South American capuchins and Australian cockatoos populating an African camp—standard fare in many old movies, but the use of consultants cleans up many of these slips in the modern era. One notable exception: the movie *The Ghost and the Darkness* which purports to present the final events in the lives of The Field Museum's Tsavo lions. The movie lions were heavily maned—only natural for “actors” raised in a cold-weather zoo in Bowmansville, Ontario, but not for the Tsavo man-eaters which were virtually maneless. In addition, the Michael Douglas character was purely fictional, created by the author to generate some dramatic male-bonding with protagonist, Val Kilmer.

LEO SMITH

Assistant Curator and Head of Fishes

Finding Nemo (2003)

To be clear, I really like the movie *Finding Nemo*. Nearly every fish in the movie is accurate down to the species—except for the deep-sea chimaera. Instead of depicting an actual species, the animators created a composite of several different types of deep-sea fish. The Disney chimaera has the lure of an anglerfish (*Melanocetus*), the mouth, jaws, and teeth of a viperfish (*Chauliodus*), the eyes of a hatchetfish (*Argyrops*), and some crazy light organs on the side of its body similar to a lanternfish (family *Myctophidae*).

Why create a mythical hybrid when there are so many awesome species to choose from?

And don't get me started on the sexual reproduction of clownfish—but that's a topic best left for another article... **ITF**

ABOVE, LEFT: © BETTMANN/CORBIS
ABOVE, RIGHT: GETTY IMAGES

Fashion and The Field Museum Collection: Maria Pinto

By Paola Bucciol, Exhibition Developer

CO-CURATED BY MARIA PINTO, A NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED CHICAGO-BASED FASHION DESIGNER AND ARTIST, AND FIELD MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGIST ALAKA WALI, PHD,

Fashion and The Field Museum Collection: Maria Pinto (September 14 – June 13, 2013) features spectacular “fashion-able” garments and accessories. The exhibition invites visitors to react to the installation of the Museum’s artifacts alongside Pinto’s garments and takes us on a journey of inspiration and creativity.

A DESIGNER IN THE FIELD’S COLLECTIONS

Wali and Pinto met for the first time in 2009, and later collaborated on a successful lecture at the 2010 Women’s Board outreach luncheon. For the lecture, Pinto presented Museum pieces that inspired her. This fits Wali’s goal as collections curator to bring different perspectives to bear on interpreting the collections. Wali has collaborated for many years with descendants of the peoples who crafted the artifacts and also with many artists throughout Chicago.



Left to right: Ruth Norton (Chief Conservator, Anthropology), Maria Pinto, and Alaka Wali in the Museum’s Anthropology Collections area.

NATURE’S RESOURCES, PEOPLES’ FASHIONS

The Inuit seal-gut raincoat (pictured above) is just one of the 25 artifacts that Pinto selected from the North American, South American, Asian, and African collections. It reflects her fascination with the natural resources people have relied on to make garments and the creativity that has gone into their selection and use. The materials and craftsmanship resonate with her, including the use of transparency, texture, and color in her designs. Seal intestines, blue macaw feathers, stitched crocodile hides, and shredded bark are other examples of materials showcased in the exhibition.





CONTRASTS AND CONNECTIONS

Although the Museum's objects reflect incredible differences in how femininity is expressed, a common thread can be seen in Pinto's selections, such as delicate beaded aprons from the Orinoco River basin in Venezuela, or a Mongolian long, puffy-shouldered dress.

Pinto drew connections between the Museum's collections and her own designs. The fashion designer selected seven garments from her collections that evoke the shapes, textures, patterns, or qualities of The Field Museum's artifacts. Although this Kayla dress (pictured above) by Pinto is obviously feminine, she commented that she tries to provide women with "armor" to face their challenges.

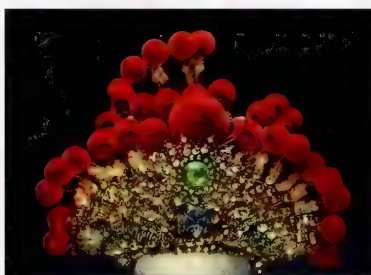


STITCHES AND KNOTS

The details of the stitching on this crocodile armor vest from Cameroon are mesmerizing. Knots, stitches, edges, and all the other "little strange links" intrigued Pinto to explore how different materials are held together. The selection of the artifacts on display showcase the skilled virtuosity of craftspeople in the use of distinctive techniques. Some of the pieces on display took many months to make and are masterpieces of design.

COLLECTIONS INSPIRATIONS

The exhibition reflects the two curators' view that museum collections can be timeless sources of inspiration for designers and artists. Inspired by the colors and materials of this Chinese



theatrical headdress, Pinto created a new ensemble just for this exhibition. Visit the exhibition and experience a once-in-a-lifetime view into an extraordinary collection. Let spectacular clothing and adornments inspire your creativity too. **ITF**

Major Sponsor: Sara Lee Foundation



TRANSPARENCIES, LAYERS, AND STRIPES

The Tema dress (pictured above) designed by Pinto mimics the shape of the Inuit raincoat (facing page, top); the transparency of its chiffon resembles the translucency of the seal intestines of which the raincoat is made. The enduring qualities of transparency and meticulous craftsmanship, reflected in both the Museum's artifacts and Pinto's garments, demonstrate that some aesthetic principles can transcend time and space.

Shrinking Giants

By Lawrence Heaney, Curator and Head of the Division of Mammals

WHEN POPULATIONS OF LARGE MAMMALS PERMANENTLY MOVE FROM CONTINENTS TO ISLANDS,

dramatic changes in body size can take place in succeeding generations. My colleagues and I examined a clear case of this phenomenon—known as “island dwarfism”—several years ago, when we studied the partially fossilized bones and teeth of an animal from Cebu Island in the Philippines. We identified the mysterious mammal as a previously unknown species of dwarf water buffalo (*Bubalus cebuensis*).

Long extinct, this tiny buffalo stood about two feet tall at the shoulder and weighed about 330 pounds—only one-sixth the size of a domestic water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*)! The extinct Cebu species was even smaller than a living species of dwarf water buffalo from the Philippine island of Mindoro.

Island dwarfism is not confined to the Philippines. Other well-known examples include extinct dwarf elephants from Sicily and Siberian dwarf mammoths from Wrangel Island. The reasons for this “shrinkage” are hot topics for current research; most evidence supports the hypothesis that food on small islands is highly limited, so smaller animals are better adapted to survive on fewer resources. Isolated islands often lack large predators, so there is no benefit in having bigger bodies to fight off tigers or packs of wolves. If these conditions persist over hundreds of generations, and the usual amount of natural genetic variation in a population is present, body size of large mammals—like water buffalo and elephants—will eventually shrink.

Why are so many of these “island dwarfs” extinct? This also is a hot topic—with too few data to make the answer certain. Perhaps it was rapid natural climate change at the end of the most recent ice age; or subsequent rising sea levels caused by melting ice, inundating some islands; or the arrival of humans as predators; or maybe all of these reasons. Whatever the cause, many of the most extreme mammals disappeared recently, and the world is a poorer place for it. **ITF**

There is still time to experience the extraordinary—and often surprising—world of

Extreme Mammals (closing January 6, 2013). The exhibition explores the ancestry and evolution of mammal species ranging from the huge to the tiny.

One featured evolutionary adaptation is “island dwarfism” where, over time, giant species shrink to smaller proportions.

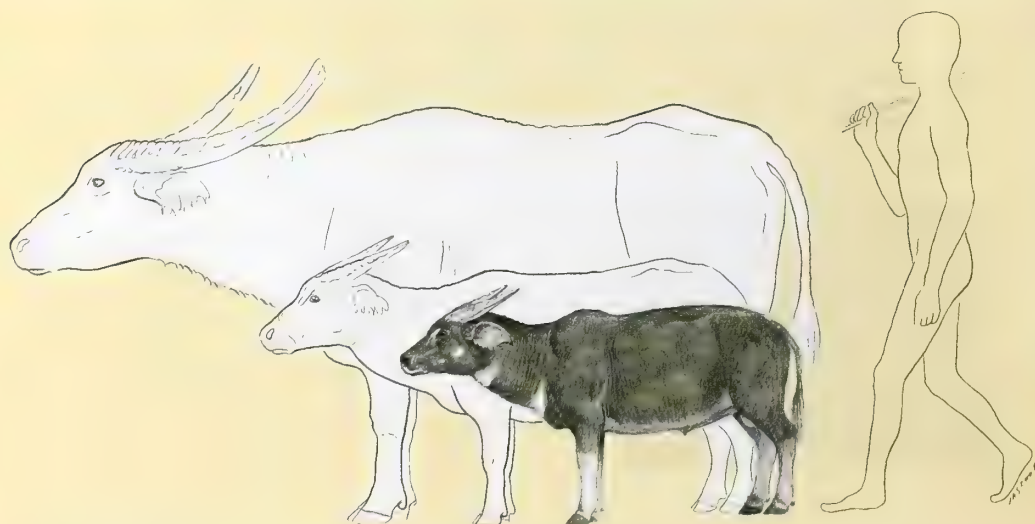
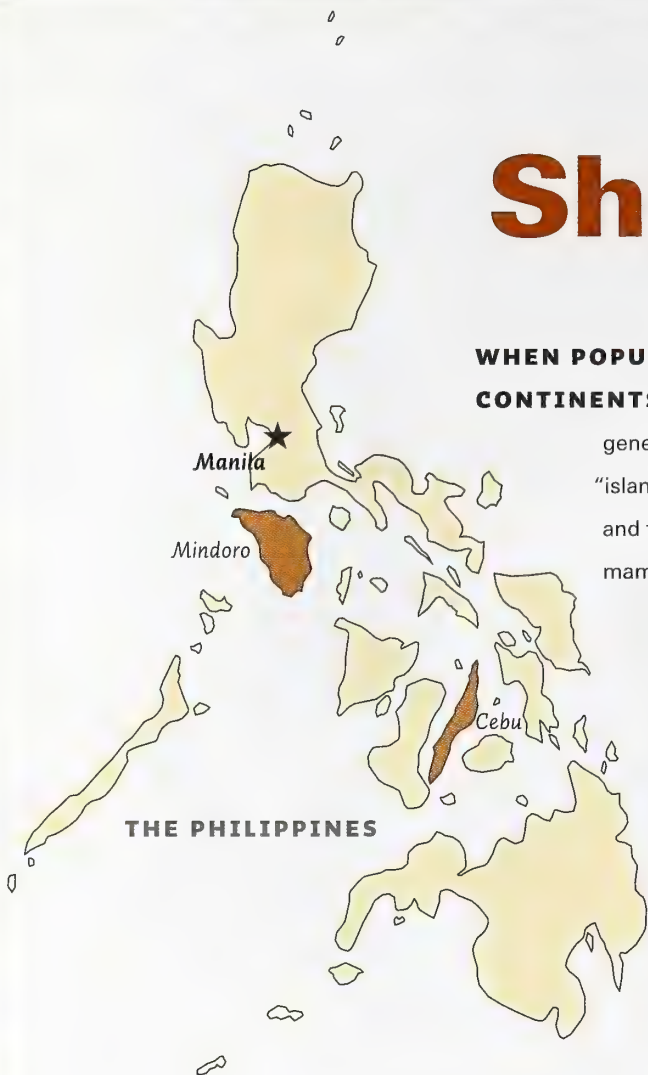


ILLUSTRATION BY VELIZAR SIMEONOVSKI

Three species of Philippine buffalo show dramatic changes in body size due to island dwarfism:

- domestic water buffalo
- living dwarf species from Mindoro Island
- fossil species from Cebu Island

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On the Hunt for Mushrooms

By Patrick R. Leacock, Adjunct Curator, Botany

MUSHROOM HUNTERS KEEP THEIR EYES ON THE WEATHER. THEY KNOW GOOD RAINS ARE FOLLOWED BY MUSHROOMS. This fall they will search their favorite haunts for mushrooms known as “hens” and “honeys.” Winter is for testing dried mushroom recipes and dreaming of the next hunt.

But what is a mushroom? Neither plant nor animal, a mushroom is a temporary reproductive structure of a fungus that produces spores. Fungi are recognized as their own kingdom of life. Unlike plants, fungi do not produce their own food. But unlike animals, they lack an internal digestive system. Fungal cells grow as extremely thin threads, called hyphae, literally growing through their food by secreting enzymes outside of their cells and absorbing the breakdown products.

In hunting wild mushrooms, you should always be accompanied by an expert. There are no fool-proof methods for knowing which mushrooms are safe. Each kind is learned individually. The Illinois Mycological Society,

based in Chicago, provides programs and forays, and its members have contributed greatly to our knowledge of the diversity of fungi in the region.

Clockwise, from left: Honey mushrooms (Armillaria mellea); Giant puffball (Calvatia gigantea); Patrick R. Leacock with chicken mushroom (Laetiporus sulphureus).

Mushrooms produce a wide array of chemicals and organic compounds, often of unknown structure or function, that can be dangerous. The nine types of mushroom poisoning range from liver-destroying amanitins, to hallucinogens, to poisons that cause gastrointestinal havoc. Pet owners should be aware that dogs are much more sensitive to mushroom poisoning.

From the Museum Campus to the region’s woodlands and prairies, scientists have documented over 1,000 species of mushrooms and other macro-fungi each with its own ecological function. In the woodlands, many mushrooms are critical decomposers of dead trees. Some of them form symbiotic partnerships with tree roots that provide increased nutrient and water uptake for the trees. Others, such as the giant puffball, decay leaf litter or organic matter in the soil. A small percentage of native mushrooms live as full or partial parasites on live trees or roots.

Some mushrooms may be cultivated; your favorite edibles are available as mushroom kits, letting you grow your own oyster mushrooms, lion’s mane, shiitake, and others. **ITF**

IMAGES COURTESY PATRICK R. LEACOCK



Toys (and More)

at The Field

By Franck Mercurio, Associate Editor, In The Field

CHILDHOOD TOYS AND GAMES ARE UNIVERSAL IN HUMAN SOCIETIES—EXAMPLES SPAN ACROSS TIME, CULTURE, AND GEOGRAPHY. Since its founding, The Field Museum has collected examples of toys

from around the world in addition to objects that appear to be toys, but in reality were not intended as playthings.

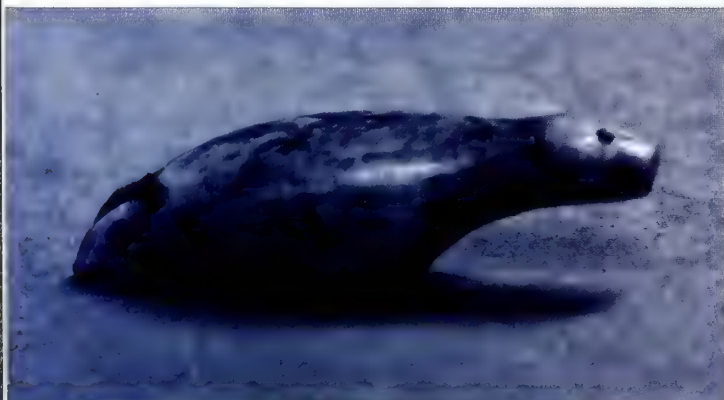


Seminole doll from the 1920s or 30s.

Some of the most engaging toys are located in the North American Indian Hall. Toys in these societies not only entertained, but functioned as educational tools that taught children basic skills that they would need as grown-ups. Toy hunting weapons—like bows, arrows, and slingshots—were used by children to hunt small mammals and birds, perfecting the survival skills they would need as adults. Dolls helped children imitate child-rearing activities; kids practiced making miniature clothes, baskets, and pots for their dolls—skills that would be perfected as they reached adulthood.

There are many miniatures in the Museum's collections that were *not* created as toys. Case in point: ivory figurines carved by native Alaskans in the late 1800s and early 1900s for the tourist trade. These Arctic societies had centuries-old carving traditions and originally created portable objects with ritual purposes such as whaling charms and ceremonial masks. But as more outsiders traded (and eventually settled) in Alaska, the locals began to carve miniature animals, boats, and other figurines for trade with the outside world. You can see examples of these early tourist souvenirs in the Alsdorf Hall of Northwest Coast and Arctic Peoples.

There is another set of objects in the Museum's collections that appear to be toys, but in reality functioned as ritual objects. Clay-fired animals with wheeled feet (pictured below) were excavated at the site of Kish (in present day southern Iraq) and date from approximately 2800 BC. To our modern eyes, these miniature wheeled animals look like children's toys—all that is missing is a string to pull them. But they are actually funerary objects from an adult's grave with a yet-unknown ritual or religious function. **ITF**



19th century Native Alaskan seal figurine.



Sumerian funerary figurine from Kish, Iraq.

Holiday Shopping at The Field

By Jeri Webb, Director of Museum Stores

THE HOLIDAYS ARE AROUND THE CORNER, AND THE FIELD MUSEUM HAS YOU COVERED. BELOW IS A SAMPLING OF UNIQUE GIFT IDEAS FROM THE MUSEUM STORES.



CHEETAH

The world's fastest land mammal, the cheetah, has long been a symbol of grace and power. In the wild, they can run up to 75 miles per hour as they hunt their prey. Handcrafted by artisans using custom fabrics and designed in collaboration with wildlife experts, our life-sized, plush cheetah sits a majestic three feet tall. The cheetah comes with an educational tag that describes in detail the animal's behavior, lifestyle and habitat, making it truly a toy that teaches and touches the hearts of children of all ages. (\$625)



INDIAN DOLL

Our lovely handmade doll was created by a unique collective of rural women living on the edge of the great salt desert, the Rann, in Gujarat, India. This region was devastated by a massive earthquake in 2001. The collective aims to keep the art of handwork alive while keeping its artisans together



EGYPTIAN CHESS SET

Egypt enthusiasts of all ages will love our highly detailed Egyptian chess set. The heavily weighted resin pieces have felt pads to protect the oak clad board and are hand-painted with exacting detail. The chess pieces feature a pharaoh as the king and the goddess Isis as the queen with a variety of deities in attendance including the falcon-headed Horus, Anubis the jackal, and Bastet the cat. (\$125)



DINOSAUR ROBOT

Combine two things kids love—dinosaurs and robots—and you've got our raging dinosaur robot! Built-in sensors enable our ferocious raptor robot to avoid obstacles, detect movement, and obey controller commands. Includes three modes of play: in autonomous mode your "raptor-bot" patrols his environment using advanced object avoidance to hunt his prey; in guard mode he will stand and wait for intruders, chasing them off if they get too close; and in remote control mode, you control your dinosaur robot's every move! (\$68)

by rebuilding the community and supporting the artists' households. Each doll is one-of-a-kind, using traditional fabrics in favorite colors of the region, and showcases hand-embroidery techniques that have been handed down through generations of Indian families. (\$25)



STILL FROM *TITANS OF THE ICE AGE 3-D*

The Ice Age Comes to The Field Museum—in 3-D!

By Shelby Bremer, Writer

TITANS OF THE ICE AGE 3-D IS THE FIELD MUSEUM'S NEWEST FILM, OPENING IN ITS ERNST & YOUNG 3-D THEATER ON NOVEMBER 9. With dazzling computer-generated landscapes that depict the frozen landscapes of North America, Europe, and Asia, and vivid imagery of majestic Ice Age beasts, the movie is sure to delight amateur paleontologists of all ages.

In 2010, The Field Museum organized and opened a popular temporary exhibition, *Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age* (now touring museums around the country) and the star of that show is Lyuba, the world's best-preserved baby mammoth. Forty-thousand-year-old Lyuba also has a starring role in *Titans of the Ice Age 3-D*, and she's co-starring with a friend—a Columbian Mammoth skeleton named Zed who was recently discovered in the ground under a parking lot in Los Angeles.

In the movie, paleontologist and mammoth expert Dan Fisher, PhD, a professor at the University of Michigan, explains the significance of recent discoveries like Lyuba and Zed. Other animals featured in the film include saber-toothed cats, wolves, and giant sloths that lived 10,000 years before modern civilization.

Shot largely in and around picturesque Yellowstone National Park, *Titans of the Ice Age 3-D* also explores our ancient ancestors who were developing art, language, and hunting skills as they sought to understand and survive in the harsh world around them.

Titans of the Ice Age 3-D is an unforgettable journey back in time—be sure not to miss it! Tickets can be purchased at the Membership desk and are \$5 for Museum Members. **ITF**

ILLUSTRATION BY VELDAR SIMONOVSKI • THE FIELD MUSEUM



Unlock the Vaults...

by becoming an Annual Fund donor today.

EDUCATION. EXHIBITIONS. SCIENCE. CONSERVATION.

These are the cornerstones of The Field Museum. Tax-deductible gifts to the Annual Fund ensure that education programs, exhibitions, research, and collections continue to thrive. Your support maintains our position as one of the leading natural history museums in the world. As the "Your Dollar in Action" chart indicates, The Field Museum uses every gift wisely, maximizing the impact of your support.

Annual Fund donors and their families enjoy exclusive access to exhibitions, Field Museum scientists, and special after-hours events. But one of the most exciting parts about being a donor is seeing the 99 percent of the collection that is *behind* the scenes. Many of our specimens and artifacts, instead of being on display, are used in research and labs accessed daily by scientists from all over the world.

Do you want to know what is being studied? Do you want insight on the next big break in science? **Support The Field Museum today, and unlock the secrets of our vaults!**

For more information, contact Madalyn Kenney, Manager of Annual Giving, at 312.665.7801 or mkenney@fieldmuseum.org.

Double your impact!

Did you know that matching gifts can double the impact of your donation to The Field Museum? Many companies support their employees' philanthropic giving by matching their contributions. Check with your human resources department to see if your company has a matching-gifts program, or visit our website and use our search tool to determine whether your employer offers a matching-gifts program (fieldmuseum.org/support/matchinggifts).

museum campus neighbors

SHEDD AQUARIUM

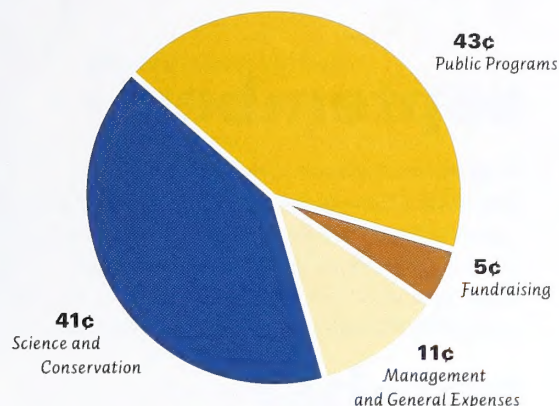
Shedd's **Jellies** special exhibit has been extended through 2013. Immerse yourself in a mesmerizing world where simple bell-shaped forms are the result of complex biological processes. Even though they don't have blood, bones, or brains, jellies aren't as simple as they look! Then, belugas dance, dolphins soar and magic happens in the **Holiday Fantasea** aquatic show. Visit www.sheddaquarium.org for more.

ADLER PLANETARIUM

In **Welcome to the Universe**, audiences travel a billion light-years and back as they orbit the Moon, fly through the canyons of Mars and soar through the cosmic web on their way to the far reaches of the Universe. **The Universe: A Walk through Space and Time** is an interactive exhibition that allows visitors to walk through time and experience how the Universe evolved over 13.7 billion years. Visit www.adlerplanetarium.com for more.

Your dollar in action.

Source: 2010 990 tax form and audited financial statements



Field Museum Memberships

Time to renew your membership?

Call 312.665.7700 • Mon.–Fri., 8:30am–4:30pm

Visit fieldmuseum.org/membership

Field memberships also make great gifts!



program calendar

Program Tickets + Info 312.665.7400

General Museum Info 312.922.9410

september

Artists and Authors* family program

9.14–9.16, 11am–2pm > Join us for a special dino-sized party as we celebrate the Crown Family PlayLab's fifth anniversary! Meet Caldecott-winning author Peter McCarty, listen to master storyteller Linda Gorham, design your own birthday dinosaur hat, and view dinosaur bones and fossils from the Museum's collections (more info on the right).

october

Artists and Authors* family program

10.20, 11am–2pm > Calling all artists! Join us in the Crown Family PlayLab as we participate in *The Big Draw Chicago*, a citywide program that invites people of all ages to draw, think, and share. Begin the day at the East Entrance just outside of the PlayLab and create your own sketchbook. Take it along with you as you meet and work with local artists throughout the Museum on a drawing scavenger hunt.

november

Leakey Lecture: Human Biogeography with Dr. Alexander Harcourt* adult program

11.17, 1pm > Join us for a fascinating lecture on human migrations. Through the lens of anthropology and biogeography, discover the impact human and non-human communities have had on each other's geographic distribution. Dr. Harcourt will take you on an exploration of how and why humans came to be distributed around the world as well as make comparisons to the global distribution of primate populations.

Artists and Authors* family program

11.17, 11am–2pm > Join us for a fashion-inspired event as we look at clothing found in the Museum's collections through the eyes of fashion designer Maria Pinto. Use these clothes as inspiration to create your own wearable art!

december

Artists and Authors* family program

12.15 & 12.29, 11:30am & 1:30pm > Meet artists and dancers from Kalapriya, an Indian dance and music company, as they visit the Crown Family PlayLab in conjunction with the exhibition *Maharaja: The Splendor of India's Royal Courts*.

Kalapriya Performances* adult & family program

12.29, 11:30am & 1:30pm > Enjoy breathtaking performances by the Kalapriya Center for Performing Arts that lead you on a journey through India.

*FREE with Museum Admission
 in the Crown Family PlayLab



Crown Family
PlayLab

Celebrate the PlayLab's 5th Anniversary!

Saturdays, 9.8–9.29,* 11am–2pm > Come celebrate the Crown Family PlayLab's fifth anniversary! We have fun-filled events designed to introduce young families to the four science areas of the Museum: anthropology, geology, zoology, and botany. Children will jam with folk musicians, listen as storytellers create masterpieces with local artists, and meet with Field Museum scientists showcasing specimens from the collections.

*extended
weekend
programming
September
14, 15 and 16



Badge Day at The Field

Saturdays, 9am–3:30pm > Badge Day at The Field will have Boy Scouts trekking across the Museum with fun scavenger hunts, exploring natural sciences through hands-on activities, and experiencing a behind-the-scenes tour with a Field Museum scientist.

Session Dates:

- 9.22 > Mammal Study or Indian Lore
- 10.6 > Mammals Study or Indian Lore
- 10.20 > Environmental Science Part 1
- 11.3 > Environmental Science Part 1 or Geology
- 11.17 > Environmental Science Part 2 or Geology
- 12.1 > Environmental Science Part 2 or Mammal Study

\$25 per Saturday session for scouts,
\$5 per Saturday session for chaperones

Please visit fieldmuseum.org/happening/badge-day-field to purchase tickets. Hurry—spaces are filling quickly!

badge
day

fieldmuseum.org
event details are available online!

9.8 Saturday

Get a close look at the field of botany, the study of plants. Listen to the classic book, *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert, then visit the Art Studio to create your very own herbarium sheet. Stick around for a special performance by musician Linda Robertson, from the Old Town School of Folk Music, and percussionist James Warner.



IMAGES: THE FIELD MUSEUM

celebrate!

9.14 Friday

Meet Field Museum geologists and explore dinosaur and fossil specimens from the collections. Stop in the Art Studio to make a dinosaur birthday hat, then take part in fun storytelling sessions as Linda Gorham spins her favorite tales.

9.15 Saturday

Visit with Caldecott-winning author Peter McCarty as he reads from his award-winning books, including the dinosaur tale *T is for Terrible*. Meet Field Museum geologists as they showcase dinosaur and fossil specimens from the collections, then go on a fossil hunt!

9.16 Sunday

Stop in the Art Studio to make a dinosaur birthday hat, then take part in fun storytelling sessions as Linda Gorham spins her favorite tales.

9.22 Saturday

Music plays a big role in anthropology, the study of people and cultures. Hear the story *My Family Plays Music* by Judy Cox, then jam with Old Town School of Folk Music musician Yahví Pichardo. Let the rhythm move you as you head into the Art Studio to make your own clay flute to take home.

9.29 Saturday

Visit us for a one-of-kind insect experience as we look into the field of zoology. Listen to a reading of *The Very Quiet Cricket* by Eric Carle, then use your knowledge of insects to sculpt your very own bug in the Art Studio. Meet with Field Museum scientists and view insects from our collections, including live tarantulas, cockroaches and scorpions!

looking ahead

Overnights at the Museum

SUE the *T. rex* is having a sleepover! Join us for a night of family workshops, self-guided tours and fun activities. Explore ancient Egypt by flashlight, prowl an African savannah with man-eating lions and take a stroll through the Royal Palace in Bamum, Africa. Then spread your sleeping bag amidst some of our most popular exhibitions. The event includes an evening snack and continental breakfast in the morning. Fridays at 5:45pm to 9am the following morning.

Ticket Options

Standard: \$63/\$53 Members

Premium Package 1: \$75/\$65 Members; allows guests to sleep upstairs in *Evolving Planet*—with the dinosaurs!

Premium Package 2: \$87/\$77 Members; allows guests to sleep in *Evolving Planet* and go on a behind-the-scenes tour with a Field Museum scientist!

2013 DATES

January 11 • February 1 & 8 • March 1, 8 & 15
April 5 & 12 • May 10 • June 7

Visit fieldmuseum.org or call 312.665.7400 to register.

DOZIN' WITH THE DINOS

Don't miss these exhibitions before they close!

The Romance of Ants

Closes October 30

Learn about the ecology of ants in this innovative exhibition featuring large scale photographs, videos, and a comic book style biography of the Museum's resident myrmecologist, Dr. Corrie Moreau.

Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art, and Invention

Closes December 2

Take a new look at biodiversity—and its importance to human existence—through the eyes of contemporary artists in this exhibition featuring sculpture, illustration, video and photography, all informed by science.

Art Works for Change presents *Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art, and Invention*, with generous support from: The Nathan Cummings Foundation; the National Endowment for the Arts; The Adobe Foundation; and the Sprint Foundation.

Extreme Mammals

Closes January 6, 2013

Explore the ancestry and evolution of some of the biggest, smallest, and most amazing mammals of all time in this exhibition featuring spectacular fossils and vivid reconstructions of diverse—and sometimes bizarre—species.

Organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in collaboration with the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada; and Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Major Sponsor: Discover

Getting to The Field Museum

Many buses and rail lines provide access to The Field Museum. For more information, call 888.YOURCTA or visit www.transitchicago.com. Visit www.rtachicago.com for regional transit information.

What do you think about In The Field?

For questions about the magazine, call 312.665.7107, email ewaldren@fieldmuseum.org or write Emily Waldren, Editor. For general membership inquiries, including address changes, call 866.312.2781.

always be discovering.

The Field Museum

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Shop Like Royalty

Enter the world of Indian royalty when you visit our *Maharaja* exhibition store. Delight in the rich history of India through our selection of stunning jewelry, luxurious textiles, and amazing one-of-a-kind pieces, such as this hand-carved frame and painting. Explore Indian cuisine with an array of spices, cookbooks and kitchen accoutrements. Immerse yourself in the culture with our carefully chosen collection of books, music, and media.

Plan to join us for our annual Members' Double Discount Holiday Sale this year beginning Monday, November 26, and continuing through Sunday, December 2, when all members will receive 20 percent off store purchases.

And, as always, you can shop the Museum Stores 24 hours a day at fieldmuseum.org. Remember that all proceeds from the Stores directly support the Museum's public and scientific programs, and that all Field Museum members receive 10 percent off their purchases in the Museum Stores.

Give the Gift of Membership this Holiday Season!

As a current Museum Member, you already know the benefits of a Museum Membership. For the holidays, why not share the gift of discovery with someone special in your life? The holidays only come around once a year, but a Field Museum membership brings joy and excitement to your loved one all year long.

Gift memberships include:

- Free admission and free tickets to our temporary exhibitions
- Tickets to our famed Members' Nights
- Discounts on education programs and in the Museum's stores and restaurants
- One-year subscription to *In The Field* member magazine
- And more!

You can order online, over the phone (312.665.7700), or on your next visit to The Field Museum.